BULLETIN from

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service & 38 Bank Street

Vol. XIV June 15, 1946 No.12

JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. ~~10~~ 11

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Barrows, Marjorie — LANCELOT — Rand, McNally $ .50

Here is another "glowing eye" book, fifth in the series and everyone of them successful merchandise (and popular with the two and three year olds). This time the hero is a jolly little lion, an engaging fellow, who hasn't learned to roar and purr as a proper lion should. Pleasant story with bright three color illustrations drawn by Sue Simons *and* the "glowing eye" which will charm children who make a habit of reading in closets: Warning- there's a very discernible slowdown in sales value of toy books today. (7/15)

Hartwell, Marjorie — THE ANIMALS OF FRIENDLY FARM — Franklin Watts $1.00

* A nice reliable farm book, written and illustrated by the author-artist of the popular *Into the Ark.* Big, lavish pictures in full color on every page - recognizable (and this is important at picture book age) friendly, lovable animals and the work they do on Friendly Farm. This is a satisfying assortment of old friends to small children, distinguished by a certain light humor and tenderness,- big and little horses, cows, pigs, goats, donkeys, rabbits, ducks, turkeys, sheep, geese and even bees. Sturdy, competent production, heavy paper and board, reenforced binding. Good value. (6/25)

Leaf, Munro — FLOCK OF WATCHBIRDS — Lippincott $1.50

The Watchbirds need no introduction - this is an omnibus volume, containing a good selection of the favorites,- the thumb sucker, the nail biter, et. For the watchbirds are guardians of morals and manners, done in such humorous mood that children get fun out of them, while parents reap benefit. (Publ.)

Puner, Helen Walker — DADDIES: *What They Do All Day* — Lothrop, Lee & Shepard $1.50

The Roger Duvoisin illustrations and the theme of this book make a satisfying blend for the 3-6 year old. Children are very much interested in daddy's whereabouts, and this book offers numerous and varied answers in little jingles and colorful pictures in Duvoisin's familiar technique. Too bad the writing doesn't measure up to the illustrations with their lovely colors. Binding and jacket are somewhat perishable - but effective. (Publ.)

Sarg, Tony — TONY SARG'S SAVINGS BOOK — World Publishing Co. $1.50

A savings bank book in which coins and bills may be inserted to round out the pictures and take the young saver on a trip to Golden City. One could wish that Murray Mouse had arranged to go farther on pennies and nickels and dimes, for when the picture book age deals with quarters and half dollars and dollars, the grownups are the ones involved. At the end of the story-*and* the book- *and* the inserts of savings, the children who have interest in watching savings grow will have $5.00 at the close. Board covers- spiral binder - extra heavy paper- bright comic color technique. The Tony Sarg market is the cream of the toy book merchandise. (Publ.)

BULLETIN from

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service & 38 Bank Street

Vol. XIV June 15, 1946 No.12

JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. ~~10~~ 11

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Barrows, Marjorie — LANCELOT — Rand, McNally $ .50

Here is another "glowing eye" book, fifth in the series and everyone of them successful merchandise (and popular with the two and three year olds). This time the hero is a jolly little lion, an engaging fellow, who hasn't learned to roar and purr as a proper lion should. Pleasant story with bright three color illustrations drawn by Sue Simons *and* the "glowing eye" which will charm children who make a habit of reading in closets: Warning- there's a very discernible slowdown in sales value of toy books today. (7/15)

Hartwell, Marjorie — THE ANIMALS OF FRIENDLY FARM — Franklin Watts $1.00

* A nice reliable farm book, written and illustrated by the author-artist of the popular *Into the Ark.* Big, lavish pictures in full color on every page - recognizable (and this is important at picture book age) friendly, lovable animals and the work they do on Friendly Farm. This is a satisfying assortment of old friends to small children, distinguished by a certain light humor and tenderness,- big and little horses, cows, pigs, goats, donkeys, rabbits, ducks, turkeys, sheep, geese and even bees. Sturdy, competent production, heavy paper and board, reenforced binding. Good value. (6/25)

Leaf, Munro — FLOCK OF WATCHBIRDS — Lippincott $1.50

The Watchbirds need no introduction - this is an omnibus volume, containing a good selection of the favorites,- the thumb sucker, the nail biter, et. For the watchbirds are guardians of morals and manners, done in such humorous mood that children get fun out of them, while parents reap benefit. (Publ.)

Puner, Helen Walker — DADDIES: *What They Do All Day* — Lothrop, Lee & Shepard $1.50

The Roger Duvoisin illustrations and the theme of this book make a satisfying blend for the 3-6 year old. Children are very much interested in daddy's whereabouts, and this book offers numerous and varied answers in little jingles and colorful pictures in Duvoisin's familiar technique. Too bad the writing doesn't measure up to the illustrations with their lovely colors. Binding and jacket are somewhat perishable - but effective. (Publ.)

Sarg, Tony — TONY SARG'S SAVINGS BOOK — World Publishing Co. $1.50

A savings bank book in which coins and bills may be inserted to round out the pictures and take the young saver on a trip to Golden City. One could wish that Murray Mouse had arranged to go farther on pennies and nickels and dimes, for when the picture book age deals with quarters and half dollars and dollars, the grownups are the ones involved. At the end of the story-*and* the book- *and* the inserts of savings, the children who have interest in watching savings grow will have $5.00 at the close. Board covers- spiral binder - extra heavy paper- bright comic color technique. The Tony Sarg market is the cream of the toy book merchandise. (Publ.)

De Huff, Elizabeth Willis TOODLE'S BABY BROTHER Univ. of New Mexico Press $1.50

We can't help feeling that the University of New Mexico Press needs a more up-to-date approach to child psychology (or perhaps a reading of Gesell, Spock etc.) for here- in a reader for the third grade hygiene and social science - or a book to read aloud to three year olds, the cliches that date with Behaviourist Watson are trotted out to the ultimate confusion of parent and child reader. The advice is well-meaning-but unfortunate! With the concept of a six-months baby as a malicious schemer who cries to test its parents and must therefore be spanked - the contradiction implicit in said parents lecturing a three-year old who hits a younger child is all too evident. Toilet seat training at six months is earlier than now advised. Some of the "strict schedules" advocated went by the board with antiseptic, unpetted babies. And the mother who leaves a six months old baby in the tub in charge of a three year old shocked a fifth grader into protest. The intention of the book is to teach young children to take responsibility towards still younger children. While some of the ideas are sound, the approach leaves much to be desired. A University imprint on a book like this is unfortunate. And its attractive appearance with Meg Wohlberg's delightful sketches will persuade some parents to take it to their hearts, despite the cloying style. (June)

de Jong, Dola SAND FOR THE SANDMEN Scribner $1.75

* A delightfully good-humored story which will appeal to imaginative children. The author has translated her own book from the Dutch. This is the story of a silly crew of sandmen and their adventures in acquiring sand after they'd spilled the supply they had in their sandbags and had to refill them at once. Happy story- nice writing-gay drawings. This will be a favorite hand-me-down book, so the sturdy cloth binding is a good sales point. Illustrations by Natalie Norton in line and one color. (Publ.)

Taylor, Elizabeth NIBBLES AND ME Duell, Sloan & Pearce $1.00

Adult movie goers will be more interested in the fact that this story was written and illustrated by the thirteen-year-old star of *National Velvet* than will the children to whom the story itself will appeal. Read it as a true story of her pet chipmunk, Nibbles, who traveled everywhere with her, in her pocket or in some suitable conveyance. A pleasant book with indications of a measure of talent. (Publ.)

*CLASSICS*** REPRINTS*

Day, Lillian-*adapted by* ANDERSEN'S FAIRY TALES Duell, Sloan & Pearce (Hyperion Press) $2.50

An adaptation of some of the best known of the Andersen tales,- seven in all- illustrated in modern style by an American artist, John Taylor. There are decorative line drawings and twenty-eight in full flat postery color, rather flashy and studied. I don't think children will like them. (6/26)

STORY BOOKS FOR 8 to 11

Feuillet, Octave PUNCH, HIS LIFE AND AVENTURES Didier $2.00

This Punch combines the characteristics of Pinocchio and Baron Munchausen. There are sly, humorous episodes, impossible adventures, bold stratagems and lots of fooling which makes this good reading for ten and eleven year olds- and family reading aloud for younger children. There's a chapter on puppet making and the authentic history of Punch to give it value on the factual level, too. Illustrated in two colors, 90 pictures. (June)

Andrews, Ned COWDOG Morrow
$2.00

When Tom Stearns saved a little cow puppy from the fate intended for it by the vicious Whitey Tanner, he headed right for a series of adventures that included arson, murder, kidnapping, cattle stealing and a mad dash from a posse. Tom found himself deeply implicated until this good little puppy, grown tall, picked up the scent of the real criminal and led the way to triumph. Corn from the West with no attempt at anything beyond crude plot and ranch talk. (7/31)

Corey, Paul FIVE ACRE HILL Morrow
$2.50

The Woodward family, factory people, buy a 5-acre lot and turn modern pioneers to the extent of building a home with labor, good spirits and kindly neighbors. The estate owner in the vicinity resents small holdings and stoops to unpleasant means to rid himself of his neighbors, but is defeated at the polls and foiled in his schemes by people with a less reactionary viewpoint. A good story- sound values. Illustrations by James MacDonald. (7/31)

Hinkle, Thomas C. BLACKJACK Morrow
$2.00

Another predictable and well-seasoned dog-ranch story by an old standby. I suppose it is too much to hope that the man will ever learn to write- for his market seems satisfied with his spinning a good yarn. This time Blackjack, the dog hero of uncertain heritage, helps his 15-year old master to clear out, one by one, a pack of wild dogs that have been terrorizing the cattle. Finale with young hero loping homeward, dog at heel, limping but game, and leather-faced foreman commenting on the pair. It has its market. (7/31)

Lathrop, West BLACK RIVER CAPTIVE Random House
$2.50

* Unusual background and impressive details in this story of a young white boy captured by a young Indian and taken to the Indian village. An interesting point of departure from accepted standards in this genre lies in the descriptions of the life in the Indian village, the peculiar effects of long slavery on a white girl, the stockade, the Rangers and a sinister Mohawk character. Exceptional background and a well-sustained story as the young hero hunts for clues to his identity and his lost family. Good library and school material. Illustrated by Dwight Logan. (August)

Marshall, Rosamond Van der Zee THE TREASURE OF SHAFTO Messner
$2.00

* Good setting of 18th century England and Germany and an exciting story of two boys, one Russian, one English, sent to a Prussian military school which they hate, make good adventure reading. The English boy's inheritance, an unscrupulous uncle, a mysterious puppeteer, gangs of pressmen, castle dungeons, hidden springs and long sought treasure- are ingredients for a fast-paced story and a happy ending. Good selling jacket in three colors, attractive end-papers and full page illustrations in black and white are done by John Wonsetler.

Miller, Warren Hastings THE HOME-BUILDERS Winston
$2.00

A second book on a theme similar to *Five Acre Hill* has just been published in *The Home-Builders*. There's more emphasis on the agricultural scene, less on the actual building. And the story revolves around the return of the young hero and his father to family holdings in Pennsylvania, where they aim to bring the place back to its usefulness and beauty. The contributions, workings and aims of the 4-H clubs are made exciting and real when the Fair brings honors to the hero and his friends. Lots of talk about farm animals. Good father-son relationships as Seth and his dad recoup the family fortunes the hard way. (Publ.)

Fiction

Bower, Barbara MISS RANSKILL COMES HOME Putnam $2.50

Four years on a desert island - and then home to England and the not so brave new world, torn by war. Nona had been marooned with a sturdy, honest carpenter on an island, back in 1938. After his death, she was rescued - apprised of the war to date- and thrust back into life. On land, her ignorance of rationing, wartime slang and routines, keep her in constant trouble, and her experience on the island is of little interest to those harassed by war. She rebuilds her life around her chance to live in her old home and to repay her debt to the old carpenter through his son. Definite popular appeal. (For full report see P. 258.) (July)

Non-fiction

Anthology FIELD AND STREAM READER Doubleday $3.00

Collection of the best from a popular outdoor magazine, from 1925 on. Tops in names are Zane Grey with yarns of tiger sharks and marlin; Harold McCracken and hunting walrus; Kermit Roosevelt and game hunting; Rutledge and turkey shoots; Nash Buckingham with a dog story; Glenn Balch on Rocky Mountain goats, and many more. Wild fowl, forest fires, buffalo, elk, antelope - true and fictionized yarns that should keep sportsmen content. (For full report see P. 267.) (7/25)

Fox, Monroe L. BLIND ADVENTURE Lippincott $2.00

The author, a Seabee, was blinded off Iwo Jima. This the story of his odyssey from hospital to hospital to rehabilitation centers, as he prepared for a life of blindness in a spirit of exploration. This is fascinating material, full of human interest anecdotes, lively, readable, challenging to the sighted as expression of a sound philosophy towards a dreaded casualty. (For full report see P.267.) (7/24)

Colby, Stoddard B. THE SCHOLAR AND THE SPROUT Whittlesey House $2.50

Mad and magic episodes in the life of Ranny, whose Uncle Roger is an encyclopedia of information about everything and knowledge of nothing practical, and whose Aunt Effie had strange abilities to embarrass - and surprise. Quiet, sympathetic display of eccentric characters, whose love for the young orphan overrode anything like investigations as to why Ranny didn't go to school. There's the subject of French - there are Uncle Rogers' violent enthusiasms- there are jaunts to Europe- there's a comic fishing trip- there are battles over simple things- there are financial headaches- and finally there's farewell as Ronny goes away to school. Fun. (For full report see P.269.) (8/5)

PARENTS- TEACHERS- REFERENCE

Fine, Benjamin ADMISSION TO AMERICAN COLLEGES Harper $2.50

For educational field largely, but a useful survey of the policies and practices which colleges today employ in the selection of students for admission which should interest those inquiring into the subject. A study based on college by college poll; the importance of the scholastic record; entrance requirements and examinations; personality factors; the type of high school program preferred; the place of extra curricular activities; the overall picture of who should go to college. With overcrowding today, there is a differential between theory and practice, pointing to need of expansion on a democratic plane. (For full report see P. 268.) (8/28)

BULLETIN from

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service & 38 Bank Street

Vol. XIV June 15, 1946 No.12

F I C T I O N

No Must Books- Some Good Names- So-so on Sales

First, a sure bet for his market, a new Wodehouse, JOY IN THE MORNING (Doubleday); there's an A.A. Milne of doubtful appeal, except on his name, CHLOE MARR (Dutton); two almost very good costume, period novels, SALEM FRIGATE by John Jennings (Doubleday) and RED MORNING by Ruby Frazier Frey (Putnam); a good regional novel, JANEY JEEMS by Bernice Kelly Harris (Doubleday).

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - Fiction

~~July ??~~ 8/9

Hueston, Ethel — PLEASE, NO PAREGORIC — Bobbs-Merrill $2.50

Returned veteran theme, with variations along more comfortable, homely, suburban family lines. Wade, with a crippled knee and a firm intent to beat down the "paregoric propaganda" with which he has been told civilians are indoctrinated, finds other shortcomings on his home-coming for which he was unprepared. The delight in being home after V-E day is soured by the breakup in the marriage of his best friends; in the poison ivy characteristics his ex-fiancee shows; in the Jersey town's attitude towards a war widow, towards shortages, towards homefront activities. There is, too, his younger sister's too early sophistication, his older sister's cafe society partying with her husband home on furlough. And finally, there's the entrance of a new girl into his life. Wade proves to be a catalytic agent and things happen, but that doesn't cure his own restlessness and he sets off with his best friend in a search for new frontiers. The trip results in freshened interest in his own family and sends him home with definite objectives and a contentment as basis for his future life....Civilian as well as veteran adjustment on a home companion basis of treatment.

Frey, Ruby Frazier — RED MORNING — Putnam $3.00

This has all the ingredients of good historical fiction and in many ways it indicated possibilities of evolving into another *Tree of Liberty*. The background- western Virginia, where Pennsylvania and Maryland and Virginia come close together, the period- stormy times before the Revolution, when Britain was remote from colonial problems of defense against Indians and the encroaching French - are convincingly and vividly handled. The central characters are fictional and Jane, impatient, vigorous, eager, is alive, though John, the trader she married after a tempestuous courtship, seems a stock character. Their story, with the running thread of doubt and love in conflict, is patterned against period, place and the accompaniment of authentic figures of the day as characters in the scene, Washington, Braddock, Franklin and others. Excellent as much of it is, there's too much of it, and the story bogs down in repetitive details and slow motion picture....Sell as a good substantial meaty novel.

August 1

Romains, Jules — ESCAPE IN PASSION — Knopf $3.50

Books 25 and 26 of the endless *Men of Good Will:- The Magic Carpet* and *Francoise*. Once again familiar figures continue their tenuous ways:- Vidal, Jallez,

Jerphanion. The time is the doubtful period of France at the beck and call of Nazi Germany, and Jerphanion, at the close, yields the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, not liking the way things go. Jallez, in boredom, continues his journal, which is quoted at vast length; he travels on his "magic carpet" seeking release, finds successive adventures in sex, in Warsaw, Cracow, Budapest, Vienna. But in *Francoise*, he finds success. The second book ends with many threads still dangling - and the reader's interest at low ebb.

August 8

Harris, Bernice Kelly JANEY JEEMS Doubleday
$2.~~75~~ 50

Purslane introduced a new talent and subsequent books showed that she was not a one-book writer. But in *Janey Jeems* the quality indicated by her first book is reaffirmed. Again one feels intimately the rhythm of life close to the soil; again one knows a character who catches that rhythm. Janey, at fifteen, is a shy, vivid girl, passionately mature beyond her years, with heart fixed on Jeems, who is fearful of frightening her with his inarticulate ardor. But of their marriage much is born, in sorrow and joy, in children, their own and others, in hate and fear of the strange woman across the marshes. Bernice Harris can write; her characters, her situations are real; she has a sense of regionalism (the Carolina mountains and the Negro hill people). Her handling of her story is at no point a race tract- but straight story.

Kavan, Anna ASYLUM PIECE Doubleday
$2.50

These short stories, dealing with patients in a Swiss mental hospital, will capture some of the more serious of the readers of *The Snake Pit*, those who are learning that through fictional treatment, that strange borderland between sanity and insanity can best be presented. There is none of the mounting suspense, the morbid obsession with the horrors of the life that appeals to the curious reader. Rather is this a strangely, uncannily penetrating study of the workings of the diseased mind, the unrealities become realities, the withdrawal into the intangible world, the breakdown of personality - and, most extraordinary of all, the flashes of clarity, understanding and despair. Some of the stories are told in the first person; others in the third; all deal with people in the asylum, or on brief leave of absence in the outside world. Some of the sketches are essays rather than stories. And some have appeared in periodicals. Anna Kavan, of French birth, has worked in a mental hospital.

Wodehouse, P.G. JOY IN THE MORNING 8/22 Doubleday
$2.00

* There'll always be a Wodehouse audience - war or no war - but the market may be somewhat conditioned by change of mood towards Wodehouse himself. This new book follows a familiar but unobtrusive formula for very fancy business, and Bertie and Jeeves still are pre-war shimmering and incandescent. There's full roster of Wodehousian characters that waken happy nostalgia. There's a handful of interrelated problems to overcome,- a romance demanding family approval, a secret deal to chaperone, an irascible uncle to soothe- problems that tax even Jeeves' usual inventiveness. And it all comes to a climax in a costume party in which the uncle sleeps off his champagne to a catastrophic awakening - the payoff achieved by Jeeves' brainstorm.

Boley, Jean THE RESTLESS Dutton
$2.50

An emotional profile of a woman at a time of crisis, which provides better class- though not high class- women's reading. Emily is restless and seeking in her marriage to correct composed Paul. A trip to South America and exposure to Conrad, an archaeologist, results in her falling for his very impregnability. She breaks with Paul, joins Conrad at Cuzco, finds him too absorbed in problems of his work to pay her attention, and only belatedly does he realize that he is in love with her. But she, by

that time, decides that her children and conformity to the social mores are more important than Conrad, and returns to New York. There's some intelligent intuitive feminine writing here, also some rather succulent sex; but the market is not a clear-cut one.

August 13

West, Keith THREE BLOSSOMS OF CHANG-AN Macmillan $2.75

Chronologically, this precedes *Peony* (see P. 530, bulletin of 12/1/45), for in it the author tells the story of Lien, whom Peony meets at the close of her chronicle, in a monastery. Again the period is the 8th century Ming dynasty, with the style following that of the period and a gently humorous touch to the picture of customs and thought of the time. Lien sees the killing of Hibiscus' husband, marries the widow with hill rites, and arranges proper marriage with her father-in-law. Accused of murder, Lien is saved by an emissary of the Emperor, who transfers him to the south. There he turns to young Jasmin, but finds that her possessiveness palls. With the coming of the plague he is sent to a monastery for safety and there meets Peony who completely wins his love so that he can no longer be happy with the other two women. And eventually, rather than face the issues, he finds in suicide a way out....Limited market.

August ~~22~~ 8

Jennings, John SALEM FRIGATE Doubleday $3.00

* Jennings combines some of the qualities of Forester and Roberts, without quite the gift of story telling of either. In feel of period, in historical background, in isolated vignettes, Jennings is on a par with the others. But he, along with too many of his ilk, loses his plot interest in his history. *Salem Frigate* is a story of two men, chance met through an accident, and pitted against each other in love and the fortunes of war and peace. The story starts in Salem, in the period when an infant industry, the American merchant marine, was in the making in the Salem shipyards - and when war was brewing on the high seas, war which involved Spain, the Barbary pirates, France, England and the young U.S.A. Tom Tisdale, former surgeon's apprentice, is clerking at the shipyards; Ben Price, whom he rescued on a stormy night, gets a job as carpenter's assistant. And the two men, instinctively antagonistic, marry the wrong girls. From then on it is war, whether at home in Salem, or on the *Essex*, built in their shipyard, counting both men as part of her complement of crew. They sail round the Horn; they are taken captive in an encounter with Barbary pirates; they are prisoners in Tripoli and escape to worse perils of the desert; and always the conflict between them over Selina, married to Tom, or Patience, married to Ben, colors their every move. There's adventure and romance and atmosphere a-plenty, but the reader's interest flags in overlong passages remote from the story.

Marquis, Don BEST OF DON MARQUIS Sept. 5 Doubleday $3.00

This is just what the title indicates,- a collection of short stories, poetry- humorous and serious-, extracts from *The Lives and Times of Archy and Mehitabel*, *The Old Soak*, *The Almost Perfect State*, and a varied assortment of prefaces, etc. One meets again the inimitable Mr. Tim O'Hara, Clem Hawley, Hermione. One realizes anew the versatility and the brilliance of Don Marquis, a modern Mark Twain. He is a better story teller than one realizes from scattered casual reading; and perhaps a less good poet. But anyhow, he is fun to read.

Diebold, Janet A MANDRAKE ROOT Henry Holt $2.50

Joanna Geyer's father was a Professor of Jurisprudence whose influence on his students had been profound. But he left as heritage to his daughter, a morbid fear of sex - an awareness of hidden currents in herself. Probably this was at the

root of her strange relations with the mysterious and cursed Ambassador Halvor Morkeslot, who lived in grandeur remote from the present day world in a castle near Copenhagen, and who used the fact of his having been Prof. Geyer's student as reason for pursuing Joanna to the school where she was working and including her in the seminar which he held for law students at the castle. Buildup of atmosphere and mood is convincingly done, but one has a sense of the story leading to a climax which does not quite come off. The breakup of the seminar - the midnight threat of attack on Joanna - her awakening to the abnormality of her relations with the Ambassador and of where her real devotion belonged - all come to a head in a photographic finish out of key with the whole.

~~August ?~~ 9/3

Castle, Molly NEW WINDS ARE BLOWING Crowell $2.50

* A novel of a marriage, which although wholly for women and largely for rent, has a margin of superiority, in its intelligent, sympathetic attraction, over the average novel in this category. This is the story of English Pat, as she marries Steve, after an affair. Steve is restless, quixotic, and tilts at world windmills, and he indulges his social conscience and convictions at the expense of Pat. When eventually they come to New York, Pat is tied down by their two children, by the problems of war housekeeping, and eventually realizes she has lost her hold on Steve. Steve has an affair with another girl, and finds himself reluctant to dispense with either of them, and leaves to Pat the decision to make her own life independent of Steve, knowing that eventually and intermittently he will come back to her.... A perceptive, aware job, which may shock the ultraconservatives but which will find many appreciative readers.

Ferris, Bert R. RESTLESS ROAD 8/6 Houghton, Mifflin $2.50

This is one of the better than average interpretation of the veteran, unadjusted because of mental restlessness rather than battle neurosis, bracketed in the period between V-E and V-J days. Ellery, on returning to his family in the midwest, finds his happiness is with other returnees rather than with his family or town life. He knows the solution does not lie at home, nor even with the girl whose understanding helps him over some tough spots. He takes to the road; he finds the masculine companionship and shared knowledge of combat life its compensations; he hoboes with "the Admiral" and "Toledo" - they live by their wits, ride the rails, test the tempers of the people they meet, and find the same questing in other veterans. In California they join the Merchant Marine to serve out the war, and almost immediately, hear of the end. An exploration, in wholly masculine terms, of the wearing away of the sense of being a stranger in his own home, and the coming of a sense of contentment and ability to face the future as a civilian....Language barriers for PL's.

August 12

DuJardin, Rosemond TOMORROW WILL BE FAIR Macrae-Smith $2.00

Pleasant- passable- light weight summer fare, in the lives and loves of sisters Val and Sherry, which is acceptably amorous for the transient traffic in romance. Val, after the death of the pilot she loved, acquires a surface sophistication, loses all perceptive feeling and marries a much-divorced playboy, only realizing her mistake too late. Sherry, her candid counterpart, falls in love with Lex, who is engaged to a girl who resents his plan to farm for a living - and who finds that Sherry is the right girl for him.

Hancock, Lucy Agnes NURSE BARLOW Macrae- Smith $2.00

Routine renter on adolescent level, this is reminiscent of others in this series of the professional and romantic rounds of Natalie Barlow. There are her patients, from a movie star to rich Mrs. Stark whose nephew Eben is attracted by Natalie. There

are Natalie's other affiliates, a veteran who once had jilted her, a doctor on the staff - they make little impression on career-minded Natalie until finally Eben persuades her to add homemaking to her duties.

August 16

Freund, Philip EDWARD ZOLTAN Bernard Ackerman
$2.50

Of the many odd to obscure novels Philip Freund has written, this is perhaps a little more obvious, certainly more ornate, in the story of the imperious, isolated Zoltans with a proud Hungarian heritage and great wealth. As Jan Zoltan, in his sixties, marries a very young woman, it is Edward, his son, upon whom this ricochets. Edward, by nature celibate, is physically revolted by his father's *mesalliance;* also an aesthete, he leaves his father's house on Park Avenue, cultivates the arts of which he has been patron, and is particularly attracted by the ballet- and a ballerina, Kitty. For the first time, Edward finds physical love not offensive to his sensibilities, and hoping to marry Kitty, he is rejected when she finds him too effete. Acclimated, shall we say, to sex, Edward turns to a prostitute...A lavish elaboration of effeminacy, this is distinctive, but certainly not distinguished.

~~August 20~~ Sept 10

Barber, Elsie Oakes THE WALL BETWEEN Macmillan
$2.75

Safe handling of marital-religious theme, while not inspired, produces here a credible story, with many warm, human values, in a first novel that should appeal to a feminine audience. There's a sincere feel to the questions young Christy cannot solve; her deep love for Mark causes her to do what he wishes though without faith behind her acts, despite her inability to share his secret strength in his dedication to his religion. From her surface acceptance of her position, ramified in the saving of Betsy from the wrong side of the tracks, in the community battle over slum clearance, in her war work after Mark has joined up as a chaplain, Christy finds that, though she does not know all the answers, she achieves on her own a recognition of the power of true belief so that ultimately her actions are backed by faith. When Mark comes home, wounded but safe, she feels she has had her reward for her work in keeping young girls off the streets, in taking Mark's place helping others.

~~August 22~~ ~~Oct 15~~ Sept 24

Ainsworth, Ed EAGLES FLY WEST Macmillan
$3.00

Documented with historical facts and figures, fully amplified, this is a long novel whose thin thread of story sags pretty heavily, but whose treatment of the course of history in the carving of a new state, California, should appeal to the factual minded. The early years of Shane Malone, orphaned, knowing poverty, are in New York of 1820-46. His energies go into supporting his grandmother and younger brother, but the lure of the West eventually persuades him to become a reporter for Bennett, and romance adds its weight when he falls in love with a Spanish girl, California bound. He joins the expedition to back Stockton and Kearny in their efforts to bring California under the USA. Shane makes his way over the Isthmus, is attached to Stockton's command, learns of the bitter controversy between Fremont, Stockton and Kearny, sees the unequal war between trained US troops and the Californians. Then there's the march of event,- gold rush, statehood, growth of settlements, establishment of businesses and American ideas and political problems- as Shane relays them back to Bennett in the East. Ultimately he finds his Alicia, vanquishes two enemies, and is on his way to becoming a ranchero. This is a convincing -- sometimes absorbing narrative, a lengthy footnote to the prelude of the Civil War to come, in a four-year skirmish to keep California as a free state.

August 22

Baldwin, Faith WOMAN ON HER WAY Rinehart & Company $2.50

The early 1900's and after, and a fuller play of period and personality than the conventional Baldwin puts this in the $2.50 class of-say Katharine Brush. Meg at 17 marries Johnny, a gambler and a wanderer, who goes to Alaska where he loses their money and his companion, Meg's younger brother. He leaves Meg with the job of supporting their two children, as a seamstress. Under the patronage of a wealthy woman, Meg is set up as a coutouriere, and makes a success of her career during an era when to be a working woman carried a social stigma. Though Johnny had left her permanently for the West, Meg is never free though attractive enough to invite extramarital attentions from men. Finally, in her later years, after Johnny's death, she finds comfort and companionship in a second marriage to Julius. Reasonably realistic romance.

Butler, Gerald MAD WITH MUCH HEART Rinehart & Company $2.50

Termed the "English Cain", Butler has here a new novel of violence which this time adds a certain gentleness and tenderness to his customary strictly sanguinary type. This is, in simplest terms, the manhunt for a child killer, undertaken by Bond, father of one of the victims, and Wilson of Scotland Yard. Bond, who is crazed by revenge and retribution, is determined to take the law into his own hands; Wilson, professional, is equally determined to protect the killer and see that justice is done through proper channels. When chance leads them to a lonely farmhouse and a blind girl, and Wilson's knowledge that the killer is the blind girl's simple-minded brother, it is Wilsonwho discovers he has a personal- as well as an official- reason for preserving the idiot from Bond's fury....Butler's sure touch gives to this genre of psychopathic thriller a very direct intensity.

August 23

Parsons, Elizabeth AN AFTERNOON: *Stories by* Viking $2.50

This first collection of stories by an author familiar to *New Yorker* readers reveals a modulated manner which is often deceptive, a delicacy, considerable charm and finesse. In minor key, here is the rarely revealed underplay in human relationships, the momentary mood, rather than incident. There is the poor boy's demolition of a new bicycle; the girl waiting for a first love with the death of a kitten as antidote to all anticipation; an unwanted little girl; a mother who wants for her child the things she has missed; a riding accident which kills a favorite horse and destroys an only escape from an incompatible marriage; and so on. The fragmentary, the fugitive, in small compass and quiet terms hold implications of the terrible and tragic. For the discriminating reader.

August 26

Milne, A.A. CHLOE MARR Dutton $2.75

Portrait of a woman- exterior view- as revealed by those who cross her path, who believe they know her. Chloe Marr, London beauty, holds men friends by her charm, attention, and women friends by her warmth and friendliness, but never does she divulge the answer to the speculations about her past and her background. To the men that love her,- an artist, a publisher, men about town, statesmen, she represents all the unattainable of womankind, and while seeming to encourage them, she keeps them at a distance. Her kindness is discovered only through chance by women acquaintances. And her death in a plane accident, leaves only slight clue as to her past history, and extends her legend as mysterious woman. An exercise in tantalizing characterization, indirect, too objective - and resultantly superficial, intangible to reader as well. For all that, there are moments of warmth and appeal and humor. Will sell on Milne's name.

August 26

Geismar, Maxwell- *Ed.* THE PORTABLE THOMAS WOLFE Viking $2.00

These 250,000 words should prove a fair introduction to an author whose voluminous outpourings have discouraged many readers from approaching him. As a result, critical generalizations have grown up about him; he is more legend than fact. Geismar sets about, in his able introduction, to reintroduce him to his readers, to give a new slant to his work. He shows how the web of his agrarian origins, his intense sense of place, people, things, his anger and bewilderment and indignation all contributed to the intensity of his writing. He persuades one to go back again and reread Wolfe for the "slow discovery of the substratum of meaning". Each selection has its prefatory and editorial note. He has selected parts of the four novels that comprise his major work:- *Look Homeward, Angel, Of Time and the River, The Web and the Rock, You Can't Go Home Again;* he has chosen five short stories; he has used parts from *The Story of a Novel* and *The Hills Beyond*... Good addition to top-ranking series.

August ~~28~~ 7/24

Osborne, Letitia Preston THROUGH PURPLE GLASS Lippincott $2.50

This seems a less contrived book than the earlier *They Change Their Skies* which presented contrasting nationalities, exiles in a foreign setting, with considerable charm. The new book contrasts the old line snobbish aristocrats of Beacon Hill with the intruders of less blue blood, less registered pedigree, in a made-over apartment house where intimacy is unavoidable. With the older generation holding the fort against the changes, widow Myrtle nevertheless wins out in marrying James III, son of unbending Mrs. Strudwick, Jr., as her warmth and loving woman ways melt his bonds to his mother. Miss Nellie wins an ally in perceptive, if ineffectual, Mr. Bartram as he promises to help her fight against her sister's determination to prove Miss Nellie insane. The superintendent's daughter, New England-Irish Connie, has her new illusions of romance with a sailor shattered. And Anne Cameron is unable to live with the icy despair that the end of her affair with David brings about. There are odd echoes of some of the situations in the Honduran boarding house in this reflection of the new winds on Boston's Beacon Hill, but the author manages a plausibility of character, a deft interlacing of loves, and a narrative of popular interest.

Bagnall, Stephen THE CRATER'S EDGE Morrow $2.00

A first novel, a fact most obvious in its earnestness, as one youth reflects in retrospect, his own intimations of immortality, as he lies dying in a bomb crater. His last thoughts center on the significant scenes of his youth, a lonely childhood, the first emotional tie with a young boy during a summer in France, the first love affair with Celia, shallow and sensual, then the gentle, reverential, idealized love for Elizabeth- first as a child of eight, then as a young girl whom he hoped to marry, but who came to love someone else. And finally the finding of faith as he comes to accept the reality of death. There's an expectancy, a mysticism, a pre-Raphaelite romanticism here which gives the book a certain quality - and a certain immaturity which will limit its appeal.

MYSTERIES, WESTERNS AND THRILLERS

Gearon, John THE VELVET WELL Duell, Sloan & Pearce $2.50

* Single-minded suspense, the tight technique of a Dorothy Hughes, in a very fine first...The nightmare, nerve-ridden chase of Jacques Deran, who after too much war comes to New York on a last assignment, as the man he contacts is murdered,

his dispatch case is stolen, and the wife he has not seen in five years doubts his sanity. Pursued and pursuing, he is immured in a clinic, beaten up, knocked out, even psychoanalyzed - but still he does not release the evidence he has of a Nazi atomic threat in South America. (Published- but don't overlook this thriller.)

~~July 9/5~~ 10/21

Ryan, Stella DEATH NEVER WEEPS Coward, McCann $2.00

Read this as a mystery novel rather than straight mystery, for though there are two violent deaths and a suicide, and plenty of suspects trailed through an intricate plot, the pace of the story is rather slow, and the focus is on the psychological implications rather than the crimes. Strangely distorted relations are built around Lucy, cruel and lovely wife of Bracken, whom she has taunted into becoming a drunkard, and who is killed. Lucy's mother-in-law is also killed - and evidence is planted so as to implicate Lucy's daughter, 17-year old Vanna, and the local boy she loves. Then there is Holly, gigolo to the eccentric old Mrs. Bracken, lover of Lucy- but actually dependent on the whims of the lot of them. And chiefly it is Vanna's story, a story of hate for an unnatural mother, and youthful love, as she confuses all issues by lying to shield her pitiful romance. The setting is Westchester County, New York. Better novel than mystery.

Raine, William MacLeod CLATTERING HOOFS 7/25 Houghton, Mifflin $2.00

Rough-riding and rangeland justice as Bob Webb breaks jail and returns to Arizona to get the man that framed him and ruined his family. When he rescues the daughter of a prominent rancher, he finds a protector and girl, both of whom see him through a lynching, gun battles, posse hunts, until he gathers enough evidence against his father's murderer to prove his own innocence. The governor pardons him; he wins his girl and his rightful inheritance and his good name.

August 1

Bachman, Lawrence P. THE KISS OF DEATH Knopf $2.00

Hospital homicide as a psychological test given within the staff reveals the intent to murder, carried out shortly thereafter when Martin, a brilliant research chemist, is killed. Garrison, another doctor, and his girl Friday, a nurse, refuse to accept the police face value verdict of suicide; they brood over the unnatural calmness of the widow, the emotional involvement of the dead man's assistant, the rivalry of his successor, and they solve the crime by repeating the test which precipitated it. Competent.

August 8

Fenisong, Ruth DESPERATE CURE Doubleday $2.00

Patent medicine for mystery fare. A medicinal murder by an international lady killer, who wolfs a lady doctor, picks up her nurse, poisons her favorite patient. Dr. Carr plays cupid to a middle-aged millionaire and his estranged showgirl wife, sticks by him when he is accused of the girl's murder, sleuths through her recalcitrant nurse to her gigolo boyfriend as the killer and herself as his intended next victim. Crime Club.

August 8

Stein, Aaron Marc ..... AND HIGH WATER Doubleday $2.00

Crime in flood with a pair of archaeologists, who changed their route when the Mississippi went on rampage, in the midst of a Southern mining town's inimical factions, in danger of lynching when murder is discovered. Tim Mulligan and impetuous Elsie Mae belabor logic to get the answers and with the breakdown of the time elements, and the alibis, piece together the awkward bits of their puzzle. Close patterned clue chasing.

August 22

Ermine, Will OUTLAW ON HORSEBACK Doubleday $2.00

Standard shooting, and substandard writing, as Dick Marr, Oklahoma's deputy marshal, goes after an outlaw gang, headed by Britt Morgan, held accountable for numerous train and bank robberies. With Belle, a worthy Colonel's only daughter, as informer, and later as part of his outfit, Morgan evades justice time and again - until Marr kills Morgan, and returns with Belle, paroled in his custody for life... For the inveterate Wild West fan.

Little, Constance & Gwenyth THE BLACK STOCKING Doubleday $2.00

High jinks adding up to high comedy as Ross, taking over his father's private hospital, is completely battered by circumstances involving Irene, whom he mistakes for an escaped asylum patient, her primadonna parent, the disappearance of his father's corpse and the apparitions of a headless nurse, a missing will and the missing insane girl, all culminating in a doubledeader which exposes all this silly business....Flighty but fun.

August 28

Rowe, Anne DEADLY INTENT M.S. Mill $2.00

Mertie Farwell takes her lickings as she trails murder from New York City to a Maine island, tries to protect her favorite friends, cooperates, using her own judgment, with the police and her nephew, the assistant D.A. The deaths of two women are tied in closely with a popular decorator, but Mertie, with Down East determination proves the law wrong - in strictly snoopy spinster style.

Field, Peter RAVAGED RANGE Morrow-Jefferson House $2.00

Pat, Ezra and Sam holding their place in the Western field, in a new yarn of Dutch Springs, and the end of a too quiet period there. Land buying, cattle disease, the kidnapping of Pat's wife, a new lawyer who shows his authority, a murder-- and Pat, Ezra and Sam, true to form in getting their prey. The variety of incidents and expert handling of old formulae keep this series really moving.

Special Note on the Following

John Dos Passos' name will carry impetus for a book that might otherwise "date"- TOUR OF DUTY (Houghton); Ferris Greenslet's THE LOWELLS (also Houghton) has been long awaited by scholarly circles; there's a good wilderness wife yarn in DRIFTWOOD VALLEY (Little, Brown) by Theodora C. Stanwell-Fletcher; and the very title, HENRY ADAMS AND HIS FRIENDS, edited by Harold Dean Cater (Houghton) is passport to a certain market. And yet, there isn't a large, predictable seller in the lot. See section following for reports.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - Non-fiction

July 1

Fletcher, John Gould THE BURNING MOUNTAIN Dutton $2.75

These poems of place,- Santa Fe, Oklahoma, Maine, New York - and time,- the decade from 1933 to 1943, exhibit John Gould Fletcher in a reflective mood. To call his poems patriotic would suggest that they are chauvinistic; but in the better sense they *are* patriotic, meditations on America, its past, its present, its probable futures. They show that the poet is deeply concerned if not anxious about the prognosis of American life. In the title poem, *The Burning Mountain*, he remarks on the frontier mobility of life (and none of these were written later than 1943) and observes that we must become solid and deep as the mountain if we are to fulfill our destiny. These are thought-provoking poems, written by an intelligent man of deep feeling. Their technical skill does not always meet the power and sincerity of the emotion. But they should be enjoyed by Fletcher's already appreciative audience and by those who think profoundly about our native land.

July 2

Gamow, George ATOMIC ENERGY IN COSMIC AND HUMAN LIFE Macmillan $2.75

50 Years of Radiactivity

Two earlier books, *Mr. Tompkins in Wonderland* and *Mr. Tompkins Explores the Atom* introduced the layman to science in a novel way. As member of the U.S.N. Committee on Explosives during the war, as associate of Lord Rutherford and of Neils Bohr, George Gamow is intimately informed on the theory of atom splitting. His following plus the market that absorbed the Smyth Report and read *Modern Man Is Obsolete* should provide a widened audience for this book, despite its clumsy title. It is an interesting and competent exploration into the scientific and philosophical meanings of atomic energy, intended for the reader who has worked through such popularizations as Dietz' *Atomic Energy* or *The Atomic Age Opens*. A-bombs and U-235 are of course discussed in some detail but the approach throughout is urbane, leisurely, rounded and unjournalistic. It requires - for understanding- at least a high school physics background, and reaches beyond the immediate problems of bomb-making and power to consider such related subjects as solar energy, atomic clues to the age and origin of the universe and atomic implications of entropy. A good book for a specialized audience. (Originally reported for March publication on 2/1/46 - P. 57.)

July 4

Bodin, Ed "Vagabond" GIVE ME LIBERTY Rockport Press (59 W.46th St. NYC) $2.50

A collection of verses and ballads loosely strung together with connecting prose paragraphs, all in praise of hoboes and hobo life. A sort of "hit the trail" medley of vagabondia, alleging that the world's salvation is to be found in hobo jungles and among hoboes, the "real Christians".. Mystical non-sense, below the level of Edgar Guest in skill, and remote from the spirit of Bliss Carman. Uh-uh!

July 16

Miller, Merle & Spitzer, Abe WE DROPPED THE A-BOMB Crowell $2.00

The human interest story of the radio operator of the "Great Artiste" that flew right wing at the Hiroshima bombing and dropped the bigger "gimmick" on Nagasaki. Spitzer starts with his transfer to 393 Bomber Squadron in January, 1945, the arrival at Tinian, the many dry runs, ostracism as a "glory boy" who escaped combat, secrecy and waiting until August 6. Spitzer flew on the first A-bomb mission, saw the devastation, and when Japan didn't surrender, went on the second mission with the dropping plane. Here is the story of the flight to Kokura, three passes over the cloud-obscured city, the dilemma of whether to try to return to the base, to countermand orders and make a radar drop, or go on to the secondary target, Nagasaki. An eye-witness account and a plea against future use.

July 17

Kitching, Howard MD SEX PROBLEMS OF THE RETURNED VETERAN Emerson Books
Groves, Ernest R. - *foreword by* $1.50

Conventional counsel which reviews fairly familiar facts, stressing the importance of a well-adjusted sex life if a marriage is to survive, the jeopardy to marriage which long separation - during wartime- brings. He discusses the various anxieties, defenses, and substitutes which occur during a period of separation; the reunion, in prospect and fact; allied aspects,- children, work, personal problems of marriage, during and after the war...Sound, unsentimentalized, but we feel that the majority of veterans want to consider themselves as having passed beyond the pigeonholing, and that it will be difficult to spot the market for a book with a title indicating an isolated topic. Chief value will be for Public Libraries.

July 22

Adams, C.R., Dr. & HOW TO PICK A MATE Dutton
Packard, Vance O. $2.75

This is marriage guidance, through tests and counsel, that is based on the findings of the Compatibility Clinic of Pennsylvania State College, and is an outgrowth of the Marriage Counselors throughout the country. Commonsense to the point of conservative, advocating knowledge of sex information, virginity, emphasizing the importance of self knowledge as to characteristics and traits, and covering the questions of mixed marriages, women's working, the veteran as a mate, etc. This is a practical complement to other books on the problem. There are chapters on love versus infatuation, on attitudes that defeat attracting the other sex, on definite types that should remain unmarried, on sexual, emotional, physical, mental, vocational maturity, on the inadvisability of sexual adventuring before marriage, on personality conflicts and adjustments, etc. ... The tests can be taken individually or with the persons interested. There is a bibliography and a listing of the marriage counselors and agencies in the country. Designed for the individual who is serious about marriage as a career; for social workers, educational advisors,etc.

~~July~~ 25 ~~10~~/3 ~~11/21~~ 12/?

Oman, Carola NELSON: *A Biography* Doubleday $5.00

* A mammoth biography of the one-eyed, one-armed English naval hero which traces in microscopic detail his personal and professional career, which at times takes issue with previous books about him, which uses not only standard sources but also material from Nelson's own letters and from accounts of contemporaries. Here is the boy who chose his career for himself, who, in spite of the influence of his uncle, Captain Suckling, proved the importance of his decision by his record

of a speedy rise in the service. Then the man, pursued by ill-health, pursuing his dream of duty to his country; faithful in his marriage but losing his heart forever to Lady Hamilton. The many years a national hero, his devotion to his little daughter, Horatia, his deep concern over his dear Emma even in the drama of his death. None of the lustre of his career is lost in the telling, none of the gossipy details of his long romance, and the whole, though sometimes bogged in circumlocution, is a monumental work of re-creation.

July 30

Dos Passos, John TOUR OF DUTY Houghton,Mifflin $3.00

This dates - and has little to say that has not been said many times before, but few write better or more vividly than John Dos Passos, and his name insures substantial sales. As war correspondent, he came in on the fringe of war- the Pacific area while the battle still was on, but when most of the Japanese conquered territory had been regained. From Hawaii to Kwajalein, to the atolls of the South Seas, to Iwo and the Volcanic islands. He saw what American occupancy meant- in efficiency accomplished by "hard work and plenty recreation"- but efficiency that spelled disaster to some native populations. In the Philippines he visited town and village and back country, talked with survivors of the camps, with guerrillas, he saw Manila rising from its ashes. The second part of the book records his trip to occupied and wrecked Germany - A.M.G. throwing the book out the window and improvising and waiting for relief. He gets everywhere resentment- or silence- on the Russian occupation problem. And he feels we are marking time-getting nowhere.

Sitwell, Edith FANFARE FOR ELIZABETH Macmillan $2.50

Originally reported for March publication, 2/1/46- P. 60, as follows:- "Both title and publishers' catalogue description of this book seem - to this reader - distinctly misleading. This is definitely not a book about the young Elizabeth; actually, except for the final pages, the little princess plays a distinctly minor role. One gets a shadowy picture of her comings and goings, of her periods of non-recognition and of occasional recognition, but always in the background of the drama played out by her dominant father and his six wives. Compared with Margaret Irwin's *Young Bess* (Harcourt- 1945) - this throws little light on the personality of the child who became queen, and the controversial issues of her relations with her uncle, the Admiral, alone receives the focussed attention of the biographer. This is a much more scholarly book - a book composed in large measure of skilfully selected primary source material, in direct quotation, but it is anything but lively reading, and would- I should think- appeal chiefly to historians, students of the period, and Sitwell fans."

August 1

Walter, Bruno THEME AND VARIATIONS: *An Autobiography* Knopf $5.00

A sincere, professional life story in which the German conductor, at 70, tells of his career in terms of his musical transformations and developments, from his early on to his mature experiences. From a modest, reformed Jewish family of Berlin, his early musical inclinations were sympathetically catered to by his family. At 15, he gave up formal education to devote himself to his career as a pianist, but conducting proved to be his real ambition, and his first engagement, at 17, was in Cologne. There, as coach and chorus master, he found sureness in his ability. Friendship and admiration for Mahler was a determining factor in his advance, and European experiences gave him an international reputation, so that he spent 12 years in Vienna, 10 in Munich. The revolutions in Germany brought him to slow aware-

ness of political upheaval, but his optimism kept him from realizing how much he would be affected. He knew the U.S. in the '20's, and found warm audiences here. The Hitlerian persecution roused him to his danger, and via Switzerland he reached America, to stay permanently. Throughout the record are names famous in music, events important in European history, and a vast wealth of artistic detail... An honest evaluation of a professional life, a subjective examination of personal development and artistic yield, this is of special appeal for the serious musical market. (Translated from the German by James A. Galston. A smooth job.)

August 6

Plaat, Charles C. BETTER YOUR BRIDGE Crowell $1.00

A much more useful book for the average player than Goren's *Contract Bridge in a Nutshell* (see P. 216). While this book, too, stresses bidding, it follows through to lead and play. And the main section of the book is keyed to the problems of most bridge players:- which conventions are practicable, which too stunty and artificial; preference bids; how to figure out partner and opponents; necessity of flexible approach to conventions and so on. I found it a good refresher, a heartening commonsense approach for the player who cannot know every shade of each new development but who would "better his bridge". Then the play of the hand, - finesses, when to take them and when not, squeeze play, passing up a trick, unblocking, etc. There's a reasonable amount of sound advice on leads. And throughout the points are illustrated by analysis of hands. A good $1.00 worth. (Expansion of the author's earlier *Contract Bridge Today.*)

~~August 8~~ Sept 5

Feldkamp, Fred MIXTURE FOR MEN Doubleday $2.50

A motley of miscellaneous pieces which combine crime, history, humor, individual idiosyncrasies and incidents for general gents' appeal and amusement. There is Thurber's daguerreotype of a civilian civil war spy; Harland Manchester's chronicle of water-locked loot; Benchley on non-participation in parlor games; Meyer Berger with a one-man yellow peril, a Chinese murderer; John Kobler with a British Bluebeard. There are prizefighters, dogs, women, newspapermen, copy readers, etc. as presented by such seasoned reporters as Stanley Walker, Bob Considine, Heywood Broun, A.J. Liebling, Will Cuppy, and others.... A general appeal here makes this easy entertainment for most males; good gift for your week-end host.

August 12

Wade, Mason THE FRENCH - CANADIAN OUTLOOK Viking $2.00

A history, in part a psychological study, of Canada's French-speaking minority from their early colonization to the present partisan clashes. Dominated by nationalism and attached culturally to 17th century France and the Church, French Canadian history has been one of continuous struggle with English-Canada against assimilation. During Anglo-American conflicts the French have sympathized with the U.S., and thus won concessions from the English, but with the advent of American and English domination of Canadian industry, the French-Canadian has turned to the British crown for protection against the English-Canadian. Here are Canada's problems; industrialization vs. semi-feudalism; Anglican vs. Roman Church; French vs. English; public vs.private schools, etc. But it is rather pedestrian in presentation.

August 13

Greenslet, Ferris THE LOWELLS *And Their Seven Worlds* Houghton, Mifflin
~~$3.75~~ 4.00

* What a family- and what a contribution they have made to our country's growth, intellectually, industrially, economically. Their story- from Old Percival who founded the family in America in 1639 through President Lowell of Harvard, who died during the recent war, is indeed "a history of the heart, mind, imagination, animal spirits and pocketbooks of New England". Only, perhaps, the Adams can rival them and their credit entry may be larger but the Lowells' credit entry is longer, with twelve leaders over three centuries and scarcely a mediocrity in the whole roster. Mr. Greenslet has tapped a rich vein in the revealing mass of correspondence, diaries, memoranda which the family made available to him. He has told the story of the family, generation by generation, against a rich background of a new nation in the making. He has highlighted the successive eras, the contributions in fields of literature, business, statesmanship, civic leadership and humanity. An important book - perhaps not for quick and wide sales, but for the long range.

Blum, Leon FOR ALL MANKIND 8/19 Viking
$2.50

A philosophical dissertation, justifying, condemning and glorifying of political democracy, written by Blum while in prison following the fall of France in 1940, when the anti-democratic collaborationists were in power. Blum addresses the youth of France who were being orientated to fascism, and defends the Third Republic from her critics. For the 1940 defeat, Blum holds responsible the decadent ruling bourgeoisie, not the system they lacked the vitality, imagination and power to use. France is now at the end of a second revolution when she is throwing out a decaying bourgeoisie that couldn't adjust to industrial production and democratic government. As for her faults, Blum would replace France's parliamentary system with a decentralized republican system similar to that of the U.S.; for the unstable, numerous political parties, he would substitute disciplined proletariats. Blum outlines here a new France, a republican- of necessity a Socialist democracy, integral part of an international organization for peace....A testament of faith in France and Socialism at a dark hour.

August 21

Stanwell-Fletcher, Theodora C. DRIFTWOOD VALLEY Little, Brown
$4.00

* Another "wilderness wife" tells of her experiences in the North woods, as she and her husband make two trips to the inland mountains of British Columbia, settling at Lake Tetana, 56° north latitude. On a museum collecting commission in 1937, studying the winter habits of animals of the North, their life is based on the practical experiences her husband had had in the Arctic. The cabin they built was comfortable; Teddy's education was drastic but not experimental... In the unexplored country, Teddy learned what isolation really meant, its discomforts and its joys, siwashing (camping out on trail), canoeing, new ideas on Indians, wolves, grizzlies, dogs, northern lights, etc. A visit from her parents, a forest fire, robust health, unevenness of feeding, the bounty of the country- all add their contribution to her growing adaptability. A second trip in 1941 adds mountain climbing and the discovery of Blue Lake; then with war on the horizon, they leave their adopted country....This type of book, with its graphic picture of outdoor life, its contagious zest and candor, its human and natural history aspects, has proved to be widely popular. This is another good one.

August 21

Sullivan, Frank A ROCK IN EVERY SNOWBALL Little, Brown $2.00

Fraught with migraine, almost all of these forty odd pieces' slightly squint-eyed view of modern life give the pause that cheers for Sullivan's supporters.. With a running jump on the nomenclature of men's toiletries, lawyer's lingo, a guide to goodwill societies, passion against pigeons; to a dash on knocked-down furniture, footnotes in books, changing a typewriter ribbon, a Jukes and Kallikak soap opera radio program, anti-aviation activities, the world of gadgets, women's hats, an evening in El Morocco, pallbearers; to a roundup by that expert on clichés, Arbuthnot, politics, radio commercials and broadcasts, football, yuletide and health. Sometimes Sullivan out-Sullivans himself. There are reminiscences of 1905 and life then as a boy; there are grammatical and etymological excursions (scrambled words, jay talking and wolf sentences); there are personal predispositions on worrying, memories of speakeasies; there is exaggerated concern about postwar world....Funnyman at a collected best....in terms that sometimes rival *Variety*.

August 22

Kane, Henry B.- *photographs by* THOREAU'S WALDEN Knopf $4.00

A centenary commemoration item with a special audience in view, this should be a lovely book. Quotations from Thoreau text face full page photographs by Kane, and give us the country Thoreau loved in all its seasons and untramelled appeal; here, too, are the little creatures of which he writes, the sights he saw in 1845-47. Even the blurred reproductions of galley proofs of pictures show an art in catching the mood of the captions that never invades the realm of the arty.

August 27

Aurell, Walter THE COOKBOOK FOR ULCER PATIENTS Crowell $1.75

A man who was himself an "ulcer patient" shatters the theory that a bland diet is necessarily dull and tasteless. He goes on the premise that the basis of cooking for ulcer patients must be good stock,- beef, veal, chicken, fish, as the case may be. He urges the use of a pressure cooker to get the essential flavor with the least waste. He suggests ways of cooking soups, vegetables, meats, fish, eggs, desserts. And he winds up with an important list of *Don'ts*. Good for family use.

Cater, Harold Dean- *Ed.* HENRY ADAMS AND HIS FRIENDS 11/19 Houghton, Mifflin ~~$4.00~~ 7.50

* This should be a companion volume to *The Education of Henry Adams* and it will take many readers back to that incomparable volume. This is subtitled *A Collection of His Unpublished Letters*, and it is that and more, for while the editor has stressed hitherto unpublished material, he includes letters that the general public may not be familiar with, overlapping and expanding some of the material used in the collections made by W.C. Ford and Mrs. LaFarge. The result is a sense of a certain continuity of experience, an inknowing of the man himself in varied moods, a reflection of the people with whom he corresponded, echoes from the world in which he lived, from many points of vantage, albeit often remote. He was singularly perceptive for one who stood outside; often critical, sometimes fearful (as in his recurrent comments on the expanding power of the Jews). Some of his letters give brief, sometimes full, pictures of places visited (Paris, London, Mexico, the Caribean, the Pacific islands- Japan, which he disliked, Samoa, which he loved). There are tender notes, whimsical notes, affectionate notes. And always a sense of a full circle of friends. Good reading for those who enjoy letters. 150 pages of biography.

August 28

Carson, Julia M.H. HOME AWAY FROM HOME Harper $2.50

The official historian of the U.S.O. records that organization in somewhat the way that George Korson in *At His Side* chronicled the activities of the Red Cross, through the media of the workers, through letters, club reports, dialogue, incident and illustration. Excusably sentimental at times, excusably enthusiastic, here is the U.S.O. as it provided coffee and doughnuts, cold milk and warm shoulders for service men in all parts of the world. Here is how the U.S.O. functioned at birthdays and weddings; in layovers overseas; in clubs. Here are the camp shows and entertainments they provided; the mobile units; the Victory books; the letters written to families at home; and on occasion, the intrusion and interference to good ends. Here are all the ways they operated to make wartime living more livable. U.S.O. participators will be the primary market for this, which makes the book seem timed too late.

Rice, Dr. Thurman SEX, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY Sept 11 Lippincott ✓$2.50

Average advice-giving which provides an adequate and acceptable (from standpoint of conventions and morals) discussion of the problems in most marriages. Here are the situations to be met, from honeymoon to homemaking, the handling of sex, various reasons for physical incompatibility, questions of birth control, parenthood, money; the choice of a proper mate; the influence of the war. Nothing very new here either in material or approach. There's a certain amount of unnecessary rhetoric. But on the whole, the book is safe and sound for the market.

August 29

Stewart, George R. MAN, AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY Random House $2.75

* Originally scheduled for April and reported P. 120, 3/1/46, as follows:- "This is an original way to tell the story of Man - and I, for one, prefer it to the dry as dust impersonality of the usual scientist's pattern - or- at the other extreme, the morbid emotionalism of Vardis Fisher's sex-dominated version. Stewart, deceptively simple in his style, lets man tell his own story in terms of social advance, from primitive days when man stood upright, developed use of force, weapons, power, domesticated animals, and grew grain. Then through village to town to city- and always with the discovery of new kinds of power until the slave civilization took hold. He disposes briefly of Greece and Rome - less briefly of the Hebrews- he marches on to the era of invention and democracy; And he leaves Man in the era of struggle, seeking through Democracy a way that all may live in peace and plenty." Choice of the newly named Non-fiction-Book-Club (formerly Scientific Book Club).

Morrell, Sydney SPHERES OF INFLUENCE 8/7 Duell,Sloan & Pearce $3.50

Middle-of-the-road journalistic approach to the problem tearing the Big Three asunder,- the four spheres of influence defined at Teheran,-Italy, Iran, Greece, Jugoslavia. The test case of Iran shows that the Big Three must maintain a balance of power. Morrell sees Russia as an imperialist nation who outmanoeuvred her Allies in entrenching herself in the Balkans before liberation, in playing one ally off against the other, encouraging precedents which would later serve her, calling the tune. Too late the U.S.A. and Britain tried to retrieve lost ground, through oil agreements in Iran, through military intervention in Greece, through supporting industrial and government reconstruction in Italy. Morrell sees the only answer in World Government, but doesn't chart the course to achieving it.

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE

	Page
Appleton-Century	
Lawrence, J.- DOUBLE WEDDING RING- definite date 8/23	260
Wickes, F.G.- RECEIVE THE GALE- definite date 8/23	202
Coward-McCann	
Kao, George-*Ed.*- CHINESE WIT AND HUMOR- from 7/? to 8/?	144
Williamson, W.M.- THE ETERNAL SEA- from 7/11 to 9/?	217
John Day	
Chen & Payne- SUN YAT-SEN- from 6/27 to 7/?- Price from $3.00 to $3.50	214
Colman, Elizabeth- CHINATOWN, U.S.A.- from 6/13 to 8/?	264
Ishvani- THE BROCADED SARI- price from $3.00 to $2.75	218
Doubleday	
Cooke, S.P.- WINNING TENNIS- from 6/6 to 7/11	189
Westcott, C.- THE GARDENER'S BUG BOOK- price from $3.95 to $4.95	217
Dutton	
Ulich, Robert- CONDITIONS OF CIVILIZED LIVING- definite date 7/1	171
Harper	
Benge, E.J.- YOU-TRIUMPHANT- from 4/24 to 7/17	119
Borden, Mary- JOURNEY DOWN A BLIND ALLEY- definite date 7/17	268
Fine, B.- ADMISSION TO AMERICAN COLLEGES- from 7/? to 8/28	268
Fury, J.- JACK DUNPHY- from 8/14 to 10/9	259
Gallagher, B.G.- COLOR AND CONSCIENCE- definite date 8/14	218
Gesell, A.- THE CHILD FROM FIVE TO TEN- definite date 7/31	218
Green, Paul- Title from SALVATION OF THE SOUTH to SALVATION ON A STRING- from 7/31 to 9/25	258
Hazlitt, Henry- ECONOMICS IN ONE LESSON- from 7/? to 8/14	269
Johnson, G.W.- AN HONORABLE TITAN- from 6/19 to 8/14	190
Neely, H.M.- A PRIMER FOR STAR-GAZERS- from 5/8 to 7/31	167
Pearson, H.- OSCAR WILDE- from 5/8 to 7/17	121
Rogers, Samuel- YOU LEAVE ME COLD- from 7/17 to 9/25	262
Strode, J.- SOCIAL INSIGHT- definite date 9/11	261
Ward, R.- THE PERSONNEL PROGRAM OF JACK & HEINTZ- from 6/5 to 7/17	189
Wells, A.W.- HAIL TO THE JEEP- from 5/8 to 7/31	121
Houghton, Mifflin	
Balchin, N.- MINE OWN EXECUTIONER- definite date 7/30	256
Case, J.Y.- FREEDOM'S FARM- definite date 6/27	265
Cesbron, G.- THE INNOCENTS OF PARIS- definite date 6/26	227
Ferris, Bert R.- RESTLESS ROAD- definite date 8/6	281
Gipson, Fred- FABULOUS EMPIRE- from 6/? to 7/25	216
Heggin, T.- MISTER ROBERTS- definite date 7/23	256
La Prade, M.- THAT MAN IN THE KITCHEN- definite date 6/27	235
Raine, William M.- CLATTERING HOOFS- definite date 7/25	285
Tabori, George- COMPANIONS OF THE LEFT HAND- definite date 6/25	183
Infantry Journal	
McMillan, Zurlinder, Josephy, etc.- UNCOMMON VALOR- price from $2.50 to $3.00	272

CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE: (Cont.)

Knopf

Glueck, S.T.- THE NUREMBERG TRIAL AND AGGRESSIVE WAR- will have a preface by Justice Robert H. Jackson- price from $1.00 to $2.00 269
Zimmerman, J.L.- WHERE THE PEOPLE SING- from 7/11 to 10/17 266

Lippincott

Macardle, Donald- SUMMER IN APRIL- omitted from the publisher index- please add 257

Little, Brown

Forester, C.S.- LORD HORNBLOWER- from 6/20 to 9/24 179

Macmillan

Eliot, E.C.- ROSES FOR MEXICO- from 7/9 to 7/30 183
Gabriel, G.W.- LOVE FROM LONDON- from 7/2 to 7/30 111
Graham, E.- MAINE CHARM STRING- from 7/30 to 6/25 216

Putnam

Hausman, L.A.- FIELD BOOK OF EASTERN BIRDS- from 5/31 to 6/28 145
Neumann, S.- THE FUTURE IN PERSPECTIVE- from 6/28 to 7/? 214

Random House

Harriman, J.- THE MAGNATE- from 6/3 to 8/? 183
Healy & McComas- ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE- from 7/25 to 8/? 183
Reynolds, Quentin- 70,000 TO ONE- price from $2.75 to $2.50 186
Shaw, I.- ACT OF FAITH- from 7/12 to 8/? 228
Stein, G.- BREWSIE AND WILLIE- from 6/27 to 7/? 122

Reynal & Hitchcock

Schane, Janet- THE DAZZLING CRYSTAL- from 6/24 to 8/19- Note correct spelling of author's name 255
Wallace, Henry A.- SOVIET ASIA MISSION- from 6/10 to 6/24 212
Willison, G.- HERE THEY DUG THE GOLD- definite date 7/29 236

Whittlesey House

Gordon, A. & D.- OUR SON PABLO- from fall to 8/12 166

NEW PRICE SCHEDULE
(Effective August 1, 1946)

It is with keenest regret that we find that we are not immune from the rising prices that are affecting all of the publishing industry. Prices of newpapers, magazines and books have been increased. Costs of paper, costs of all printing processes, costs of binders - and salaries - all have gone up. We tried to find ways to meet these rising costs without passing any part of them on to our subscribers. And we just can't do it - and stay in business. So, with your interests as well as our own survival (which we hope is in your interest, too) as the goal, we have arrived at the following new price schedule.

For shops or book departments doing a gross book business in the past year up to				Per Mo.	Per Year
	(a)	$30,000	@	$3.00	$32.00
	(b)	50,000	@	5.00	54.00
above	(c)	50,000	@	10.00	100.00

(a) classification receives one set of the Service. Cumulative Index--$2.00
(b) classification receives two sets of the Service, plus Cumulative Index.
(c) classification receives three sets of the Service, plus Cumulative Index.

If you are not in the right classification, will you notify us by August 1st? If you are not getting what you are entitled to, will you also tell us. Subscribers now on annual rate are not billed at new rate until present subscription expires.

Leather binders included on all original subscriptions. Extras- $1.50

For Public Libraries having a book budget for the year			
above	$7,000	@	$30.00 per year
under	7,000	@	23.00 per year
Duplicate subscriptions...		@	12.00 per year

(for branches,special departments,etc.)
Special rates on quantities of ten or more. Leather binders $1.50

These changes in rates do not go into effect until the close of your present term of subscription. Please note, at your earliest convenience, the classification into which you belong. In order not to make this change too hard on the libraries in the middle range budget level, we have raised the classification for lower rates from $5,000 to $7,000.

Any subscriber desiring extra key index sheets (they are automatically issured twice a year) may secure individual sheets by indicating position of tab, without charge. Complete new sets cost $1.50 for six months, $3.00 for twelve months - and entitle you to extra gummed (or plain, as specified) indexes to correspond. The value in these extra indexes lies, for example, in the use by juvenile librarians, who have no special index of their own other than the three times a year check lists.

We thank you for past cooperation and your present understanding. We assure you that, in making thses necessary changes, we are absorbing as much as is possible ourselves, and making only what shifts are necessary to keep us in business!

Here's to a possible future downward shift!

BULLETIN from

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service ✻ 38 Bank Street

Vol. XIV July 1, 1946 No.13

JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. 12

in collaboration with Nina Schneider

NEWBERY & CALDECOTT AWARDS

The Newbery award went this year to Lois Lenski for her STRAWBERRY GIRL-(Lippincott) and the Caldecott to the Petershams' THE ROOSTER CROWS (Macmillan). Congratulations to the A.L.A. for giving the awards to authors and artists who have long deserved some recognition of this kind for their consistently high level of contributions to the field. Our original reports on the titles are repeated below.

PETERSHAM , Maud & Miska *THE ROOSTER CROWS* *Macmillan*
A Book of American Rhymes & Jingles *$2.00*

* *Though I'd seen only a sampler from this second volume of the Petersham's This Is America series, at the time of reporting, that plus the partial list of the inclusions and familiarity with the Petershams' skillful blend of decorative and illustrative drawings in color, combined to make me very sure that this was one of the important books of the year...Nursery rhymes, counting out games, finger games, jingles - American folk song material on a juvenile level - all this is ideal kindergarten and story hour material, and good going-to-bed reading for parents who want to make America's heritage part of the four-to-six year olds' tradition. There are ten full pages in four color - 24 half tones and 2-color - and the text is set in bold, clear type. 64 pages in all.*

Lenski, Lois *STRAWBERRY GIRL* *Lippincott*
$2.50

* *Another story in her regional series- this time a family story of life among the Florida crackers, when Florida was just beginning to emerge as an agricultural and fruit growing state. Miss Lenski captures successfully the speech, customs, way of life with its trials and joys, in the story of the feud between the ambitious, hard-working Boyers and the proud, indolent, lazy Slaters. It is a story of the little girls, chiefly- alert 3rd and 4th graders will like it fully as well as their older sisters. Mildly dramatic- occasionally a shade moralistic - but all in all excellent regional material. Authentic and charming quality in the blacks and whites by the author. 194 pp.*

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Klutch, M.S. MR. 2 OF EVERYTHING Coward, McCann
$1.50

There once was a picture book called *The Folding Father* which I thought insufferable- but negligible. I proved to be wrong- the children adored it....Perhaps I am wrong again, for this I think falls flat on its face, so far as I am concerned. The Kurt Wiese illustrations will doubtless redeem it. Some children will think it good fun. I think it just silly. It is a story of a little boy who was embarrassed by a queer father who did everything double,- he slept on two beds, had two jobs, bought two of everything- and wanted two wives and two sons. A partial solution was found but it didn't cure him. He started all over again. Now do *you* think that is funny? (9/19)

Johnson, Laura & Jack THE LEAKY WHALE Houghton, Mifflin $1.75

Charles Darby drawings in this year's whale book are humorous and clear as well as colorful, with water color and ink technique. They jack up a not too important story into attractive merchandise. This is the story of a whale that suffers a slight accident and begins to leak sperm oil. The oil helps to calm a raging sea and saves a gallant little ship, and a friendly crew sews a fine red patch over the leak. Upper picture story book level- and lower read aloud level appeal. (September)

Reck, Alma Kehoe THE LITTLE LOST BOY Whitman $1.25

A picture story book which beginning readers can cope with- but the appeal is largely a local one (Denver, Colorado) and one wonders how wide an audience can be found for this story of Larry, who ran away to explore the city of Denver, and who saw the City Park, the Children's Library, the Museum, Cathedral, State Capital and busy streets. Lucia Patton's black and white illustrations and her colored map end-papers and full spreads are pleasant but not distinguished. (Publ.)

BOOKS TO READ ALOUD

Campbell, Camilla & STAR MOUNTAIN *And Other Legends of Mexico* Whittlesey
illustrated by McKinney, Ena $2.00

This fills a real gap in legendary material of our neighbor Mexico, designed for small listeners of the story hour age level. Camilla Campbell has steeped herself in Mexico's history and legend, and has blended the two in short tales of ancient tribes, conquistadores, padres, peons, animals, flowers, trees, saints, place names, holidays, costumes. The publishers have made a beautiful book of it with full page illustrations and spot drawings in line and flat, gay color, in keeping with the quality of the text.

FICTION FOR THE 8 to 11's

Lownsbery, Eloise MARTA THE DOLL Longmans, Green $2.00

* A charming girl's story that catches the rhythm and color of life in a mountain village in Poland, untouched by war. A hearty, affectionate family surrounds little Hanka, who wants, more than anything in the world, a real doll from a store. The earnest bond between doll and little mother will appeal to all grave little girls who like dolls and stories about girls. The charming style will make reading aloud to those not up to third and fourth grade facility a pleasure for parents and elders. Lively drawings in black and red by Marya Werten add flavor to the regional quality of the text. (Fall)

8 - 11- FACT BOOKS

Seymour, Flora Warren POCAHONTAS: *Brave Girl* Bobbs-Merrill $1.50

The story of the Indian girl who profoundly affected the history of the English colony of Jamestown, and the life of Captain John Smith, is here told with nice feeling for background of Indian family life and universal sense of a girl who is just a little "different" from other children in her group. Once again, an excellent title in this best of fictionized biographies for middle age group children. (9/?)

Stevenson, Augusta CLARA BARTON: *Girl Nurse* Bobbs-Merrill $1.50

An engaging volume in a popular series which tells background stories of the youth of characters in history. Clara Barton, who was founder of the Red Cross, was youngest of a lively brood and she grew up in the pre-civil war years in New England.

Anecdotes of her youth show her as a painfully shy child who became bold when confronted with need for boldness- charmingly told for young readers. She was the first woman to organize a unit to work on a battlefield with the wounded; she became a great figure in the annals of medical history. Sound background material with story quality. (9/?) 9/3

12 - 15 - FICTION

Headley, Elizabeth — A DATE FOR DIANE — Macrae-Smith $2.00

Diane was fifteen, but didn't have dates the way her classmates had in the community in southern New Jersey where she lived. She wanted to be like the others but didn't know how- and got very shy and self-conscious about it all. This is the story of how she met some typical high school set problems, in a book dealing with dating, hair-do's, boy friends, and various fairly typical behaviour problems. The mother in the tale is the social arbiter, with an eye on making Diane over, and sometimes her dog seems her only real confidante. Nice illustrations by Janet Smalley for a pleasant story that many average girls will enjoy. ~~(8/12)~~ ~~9/23~~ 10/14

Colt, Martin — SECRET OF BALDHEAD MOUNTAIN — Messner $2.00

In January we reported the first of these Roger Baxter mysteries under the author's pseudonym (see P. 37- STRANGER AT THE INLET). This second volume continues the adventures of Roger and Bill, in the small western town of Pay Dirt. A tunnel their dad is building is sabotaged repeatedly until the boys go on the trail and locate the men who want to see the tunnel abandoned so that they can continue their robbery. The boys do a lot of groundwork and are in on the finish when Slim, government agent, concludes the chase. Bright boys and plenty of action. Illd. by John C. Wonsetler. (Fall)

Scholz, Jackson — BATTER UP — Morrow $2.00

Marty Shane, born and bred to baseball, returns from the wars with all threads dangling. He determines to stick to baseball, but in a small way- and against family advice, throws in his lot with the Buffalo Bantams, and - in their lingo - "takes to the sticks". In the processes, he rebuilds his life, his values, his ways, and goes forward to success and happiness through learning the significance of real work, of team play and cooperation. Convincing material, psychologically, and well-handled. And good baseball in a story boys will like. One of the best Scholz has done. (8/28)

Walden, Amelia Elizabeth — GATEWAY — Morrow $2.50

* This is that rare thing- a first rate High School story - this time it ticks! The story centers around two girls, one of Hungarian parentage, Mig Domoskos, whose father was lost in the war, and whose mother took a post with the Hollywood Marshalls, a continent's reach from their New York flat, and brought into that household a comrade for Peyton Marshall, "poor little rich girl". The two girls, each with problems to work out, develop a nice relationship, and Peyton is forced to re-evaluate her ways. The whole school set takes on meaning and maturity. Lively girls- sharpness and clarity of analysis- genuine young love with some of its heartaches- plenty of sports and games, give this book real values. One can forgive an occasional glibness for the basic sincerity. The girls will like it!

Woody, Regina — STARLIGHT — Morrow $2.00

* A well-written story of horses, horse-training and especially of the love of a plucky young girl for a beautiful, sensitive and stubborn horse named Starlight. Emphasizing sporting values, the book is a bit overladen with the Long Island smart horsey set, but the heroine is outside the circle. Good feeling for animals, children and nature. Judy, loving the golden horse, learns to ride him when no one else can.

She helps train the horse, until he is tractable and responsive. Then he is sold to an arrogant, cruel member of the racing fraternity. He turns bad, vicious - but when brought back as hopeless, Judy's love rehabilitates him....Something of the appeal of *National Velvet* at a younger level, with the additional factors of fancy schools, trick riding, obedience training, an interesting and detailed background for that wide audience of horse fans. This is a more surely popular book than Regina Woody's earlier work. (8/28)

Brill, Ethel C. MADELEINE TAKES COMMAND Whittlesey $2.00

True story in fictionized form of Madeleine de Vercheres, who in 1692, with her two younger brothers and an old servant, held off the Mohawks for a whole week and protected the stockaded fort of Vercheres with all the women and children hidden in the blockhouse behind it. Her own account of the siege was recorded by the governor of New France in the upper St. Lawrence and this story is based on that record. Dramatic, authentic material well handled, with tolerance and sympathy for the brave *noblesse* of royalist new France. A good story with a quaint foreign flavor; exceptional background material for school libraries. ~~(9/?)~~ 10/8

12 to 15- NON-FICTION

Forbes, Esther AMERICA'S PAUL REVERE Houghton, Mifflin $2.00

All we've seen is the text for this simplification of the author's scholarly *Paul Revere.* No pictures. No suggestion as to the type of book it is to be. So we really are only announcing it here, as a book that provides an authentic and competent text, factually sound, but written with no flair for the junior reader. However, we shall reserve judgment until we see the finished book. (8/?)

Perry, Josephine THE RUBBER INDUSTRY Longmans, Green $2.00

A new and revised edition of the history and practice of the rubber industry with amplifications including important new processes. Includes background, sources of material, synthetic rubber in various aspects, preparation of rubber for manufacture and research in the industry. Illustrated with photographs. Good reference material in an established series. (Fall)

Skilling, W.T. & Richardson, R.S. SUN, MOON AND STARS Whittlesey
Astronomy for Beginners $2.50

Mr. Skilling is an experienced teacher; Dr. Richardson is on the staff at Mt. Wilson observatory. Together they have produced a book designed for the teens, but seeming to be wrongly defined in its subtitle "Astronomy for Beginners". It is done in the form of talks with the readers- which inevitably introduces a slight note of condescension, annoying to teen agers (yet the material is too advanced for younger children). There are experiments which lift it out of the run-of-the-mill book in the field. There are human interest bits that liven the rather heavy text. There are imaginary bits that take it away from straight fact. But all in all, it is essentially a basic text (with up-to-the-minute findings, such as the radar contact with the moon, the atomic bomb, etc.) Subjects included are the moon, the sun, the planets, the stars, astronomers and observatories. Illustrated with fine photographs. Indexed.

FICTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Thorp, Louise H. COMPANY OF ADVENTURERS Little, Brown $2.00

The exciting, relatively unfamiliar story of the Hudson's Bay Company in general and of Pierre Radisson in particular, whose restless feet led him far afield to discover new hunting and trading routes across the continent. His adventures as an adopted "son" of the Indians and as a courageous explorer and trader make lively reading for older boys. England's sharp trading with him, and his small return for a great

contribution add a poignant note to the tale. The life in the little village between Montreal and Quebec is sketched realistically - as it must have been in 1652 and later. (8/22)

Allen, Merritt Parmelee RED HERITAGE Longmans, Green $2.25

Revolutionary New York, in the area stretching from Albany to Canada, forms background for the story of Derrick, who sees his family wiped out by Indians, and builds a creed of hate and revenge, part of his resolve to free America from an England that hired savages to do it. Exceptional characterization of leaders, both savage and white, marks this book from the usual. The learned, Greek-speaking, Oxford-educated Indian chief is a character to be long remembered. The dogged determination which filled Americans who saw their work go up in flames, the curious stupidities of the war itself and its inevitability, these too are unusual facets of a rounded, thoughtful book. Allen has long experience in writing for boys; this is one of his best books. Too bad it comes to a crowded field. (Fall) 8/21

Guinagh, Kevin SEARCH FOR GLORY Longmans, Green $2.50

In fiction form, the life of Jean Francois de Rozier, chemist, who from humble surroundings grew to be one of the most famous men in France. Attached to the corrupt court of France, he wrested scientific fame for himself and his country from strange sources. He established an academy of science, he lectured, he experimented with gases and was the first man to make a balloon ascension. He became famous before he incurred the displeasure of a minister of finance, a displeasure which was responsible for his death, when he was ordered to fly the Channel against his own judgment. New background and excellent and unobtrusive political values presented without malice or caricature. Competent job of writing. Good library and school material. Illustrated. (Fall) 8/21

MacKaye, Loring JOHN OF AMERICA Longmans, Green $2.50

* Cromwell's England, and a superstition ridden little town are excitingly detailed in the strange story of John Barebody, who, under dramatic and romantic circumstances, saw his foster-mother accused of witchcraft and die of a heart-attack. John escaped with another old woman accused of dark crimes, and set out for America as an indentured servant. The old woman is hung as a witch en route; John is saved by one, John Washington, ancestor of our own George. Then follows the life as an indentured man in Virginia, and the role of Washington in establishing John Barebody's true identity - and a grand story withal. The added facet of an original Washington coming to America and fighting his own battle for independence and protecting the oppressed is a new angle, along with romance, mystery, plenty of adventure. Illustrations by Henry Pitz. pp. 1947

BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE - Non-fiction

Gordon, Alvin & Darley OUR SON PABLO Whittlesey $2.75

The Gordons first met Pablo in Mexico when he was chosen to help them make a documentary film of his people, the Tarascan Indians. It was Pablo who always appeared out of nowhere in emergencies, who persuaded the Indians with sugar-coated blackmail, who dreamed out loud of an American college degree until the Gordons decided to take him up to the University of California. Sensitive, proud, with a continental flair but no English, Pablo was a misfit on the college campus. But dance bands, "jeeve", "arty dames", indulgent professors transformed him into sophomoric Joe. After two years, the war sent him back to Mexico, and there he met anti-Indian sentiment. Tho Gordons visited him to bolster his morale, and were given an all-out fiesta, and left a dedicated Pablo, converted from the "reevolution" to "American deepolmacy". Warm, disarming story that captures the Mexican spirit. (For full report see P.166) (8/12)